

State Board for Crane Operators
Minutes of the July 16, 2013, Meeting

Members Present: Edward St. John, Chairman; Edward Shapiro, Richard DeJulio; Nate Brown

Also Attending: Elliot Henowitz, State Crane Inspector; David D'Ostillo, IUOE Local 478; Terry Brouwer, DAS/DCS/OSFM; Jenna Padula, DAS/DCS; Linda Spring DAS/DCS/OSFM;

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.
2. Minutes of the May 16, 2013, meeting were approved.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Nucor Steel was noted on a crane inspection for unsafe operating conditions and going to be fined a \$500.00 civil penalty.
 - B. Discussion took place with respect to re-testing of the existing crane operators. Announcement letters will be sent out with specific re-testing details.

Terry Brouwer distributed a letter dated November 5, 2012, to the Crane Board members for review regarding Crane Operator Examinations.
 - C. Continuation of crane accident which occurred on April 14, 2012, at the Moses Wheeler Bridge project in Stratford, Connecticut. Tabled.
 - D. Crane Board member Richard DeJulio made note of crane operator David Perzan employed by A Quick Pick Crane Service, Inc. of Shelton, Connecticut. It was noted that at least two crane accidents/incidents that were not reported and need to be investigated by crane operator David Perzan. It was stated that a letter confirming his accidents/incidents would be placed in his file. Tabled until the letters are completed.
 - E. The Crane Board previously reviewed a crane accident that occurred in West Hartford, CT, on January 25, 2013. This crane accident occurred in West Hartford on the New Britain to Hartford Busway project under the direction of Middlesex Corporation while just completing the setting of a concrete cap on a wall. Crane Operator Ward Preston was waiting for a laborer to unhook his rigging from the concrete wall cap that was just hoisted in place by his Manitowoc 4100 crane. While waiting for the shackle to be removed in order to proceed for the next lift, crane operator Ward Preston had the crane's main block and rigging hardware (lifting beam and slings) held in place by latching the crane's brake. Crane operator Ward Preston stated he accidentally bumped the brake pedal and thus released the crane's brake letting the rigging fall and strike the laborer on top of the concrete wall who was releasing the shackle to cut the crane free of the concrete wall cap just set in place. As a result of the brake pedal being bumped accidentally thus releasing the main hoist line, the laborer was seriously hurt when the rigging fell. Discussion took place regarding this incident and the Board made a motion and seconded to reinstate his license.
 - F. A concerned citizen submitted information and documentation via the state crane inspector with respect to an unlicensed unregistered crane operation that recently occurred in the northeast part of the state during the constructional renovation of a town firehouse. The Department of Construction Service's legal department will check into the matter and report

back to the Crane Board on any action that can be taken. The Crane Inspector asked for an update on the status of this inquiry of Jenna Padula of the Legal Department and she had no recollection of this issue. Tabled.

- G. Review of crane apprentice process, currently applicants come in and get crane operator apprentice application. It was suggested a general knowledge test be given, Crane Board will now review all apprentice licenses. Elliot developed a short questionnaire for apprentice crane applicants for the Crane Board to review. Motion made and seconded by the Board that all apprentice licenses will be submitted to the Crane Board to review prior to acceptance.
- H. It was brought for review to the Crane Board whether or not cranes equipped with fixed baskets attached to the crane booms require a crane operator's license. A sign company is requesting whether it is permissible with a fixed personnel basket attached to the crane boom be operated without a crane operator's license provided no hoisting of material whatsoever is being performed. An operator manual from their Manitex Crane was submitted for review. This topic was tabled pending further research.

4. New Business:

- A. The Crane Inspector brought a letter requesting an extension of the 60 day allowance for a Hoister renewal. Discussion took place and the Crane Board stressed we must adhere to the 60 day allowance and the Office must not allow renewal past the 60 days. The Crane Board requested that the state crane and hoisting regulations must be followed.

Terry Brouwer brought up a discussion on the fees charges. The Chairman asked for an outline of the new proposed fees to be added to the next agenda.

- B. It was noted that the cost is significantly greater for the NCCO testing regarding the re-test certification.
- C. Concavage Marine Construction was involved in a crane accident that occurred at a marina in Stamford, Connecticut. This matter is being investigated and presently has been turned over to the Stamford Courthouse. Pending charges filed against them; upon outcome from the Court system, it will be brought to the Crane Board for review. Tabled.

5. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.